Linden Hall Connect

YOUR GIFTS AT WORK!

Summer 2024 Edition

A Message From the Head of School



Dear Linden Hall Family,

As another academic year draws to a close, I would like to share with you the remarkable journey that our school community has undertaken over the past months. From moments of academic triumph to outstanding achievements in athletics and the arts, it has been a year filled with growth, resilience, and celebration.

In the realm of athletics, our teams have showcased exceptional sportsmanship, achieving success both on and off the field. Their dedication to teamwork and perseverance serves as an inspiration to us all.

The arts have also flourished within our community, with students expressing themselves through music, theater, and the visual arts. Their creativity and passion have enriched our school culture and brought joy to all who have experienced their performances and exhibitions.

All our seniors have excelled in their college admissions, with students gaining admission to prestigious institutions both domestically and abroad. Their dedication and hard work have truly paid off, and we eagerly anticipate the bright futures that lie ahead for each of them.

The night before graduation, our Baccalaureate program served as a reflection of our students' curiosity and spiritual growth. It provided a space for contemplation, gratitude, and anticipation as our seniors prepared to transition to the next phase of their lives.

Commencement day was a testament to our graduates' remarkable academic accomplishments. As they received their diplomas and were welcomed into the Alumnae Association, their years of hard work, dedication, and intellectual growth were honored and celebrated by our entire community. It was a momentous occasion, highlighting their unwavering commitment to academic excellence throughout their time with us.

As we reflect on the events of the past year, I am filled with pride for everything our students, staff, and faculty have achieved. Together, we have navigated challenges and celebrated triumphs, forging bonds that will endure for years to come.

Warm regards,

Dr. Nan



Class of 2024 Matriculations

- Drexel University
- Franklin & Marshall College
- Georgetown University
- Georgia Institute of Technology
- Gulf Medical University
- Muhlenberg College
- Parsons School of Design | The New School
- Pennsylvania State University (2)
- Syracuse University
- University of Connecticut
- University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign
- University of Massachusetts Amherst
- University of Rochester
- University of Western Ontario
- Washington and Lee University

Celebrating Our Top Academic Achievers



Valedictorian — Sara Holler

Congratulations to Sara Holler for being named Linden Hall's 2024 Valedictorian! Sara will attend Georgetown University next year and major in government on a pre-law track. We know she will make her alma mater proud!

Salutatorian — Tenra Adams

Congratulations to Tenra Adams for being named Linden Hall's 2024 Salutatorian! In the fall, Tenra will attend Washington and Lee University, majoring in international business and Spanish. We can't wait to see the wonderful things she accomplishes in college and beyond!



Welcoming Home Our Alumnae

In mid-April, we were excited to welcome many of our alumnae back to campus for Reunion Weekend. This year's reunion highlighted members of all graduating classes ending in 4 or 9, with guests from as far back as the class of 1954!

The festivities began on Friday afternoon with Senior Tea, during which our alums gathered with the class of 2024 to discuss their experiences at Linden Hall. In the evening, visitors gathered in the school lounge for a cocktail hour with Linden Hall faculty and staff, then attended our Spring Musical, *Alice by Heart*. The final event of the night was a pizza party with current students in Honeycutt Hall, sponsored by the Alumnae Association.

Reunion Weekend continued Saturday morning with guided tours of the Evita Allen Academic Center and Anne Brossman Swiegart Sports and Fitness Center, led by several student ambassadors. A solemn service in Mary Dixon Chapel followed the tours, highlights of which included performances from our student bell choir, our student-led group "Musea," and words from both Dr. Nan and our chaplain, Mr. Denny Foreman.

Following the chapel service, guests reminisced with their Linden Hall sisters during Alumnae Brunch. At the end of the meal, the Alumnae Association honored Margy Whitmer '70 as our 2024 Distinguished Alumna for her work as the producer of *Mister Rogers' Neighborhood*.

Welcoming home our alumnae is one of the most sacred traditions at Linden Hall, and we are so glad that this year's reunion was such an incredible success. Many thanks to all who attended, as well as those who made the weekend happen, including our Alumnae Association and our amazing, hard-working staff. Linden Hall continues to achieve its mission due to your generous and fervent support.

"Seven 1964 classmates attended our 60th Reunion in April. Several of us attended all the events offered during the weekend. I especially enjoyed the guided academic building tour and the service in Mary Dixon Chapel. The music was lovely. We also visited the Pretzel Bakery, got a warm pretzel to go, walked Main Street, and purchased buds at Wilbur. It was great to walk through campus. We shared meals, enjoyed each other's company, reminisced about Linden Hall, and shared memories."
— Happy Witherspoon Simmons '64



Meet Our 2024 Distinguished Alumna: Margaret "Margy" Whitmer '70



At this year's Alumnae Reunion brunch, the Linden Hall Alumnae Association was thrilled to recognize our second Distinguished Alumna, Margy Whitmer of the class of 1970. Margy earned this designation for her global contributions to society by producing and directing the hit show *Mister Rogers' Neighborhood* along with other associated productions.



Spring 2024 Snapshot

Lyceum



Linden Hall's Lyceum program took center stage in April, showcasing the brilliance and talent of our students. From captivating presentations on quantum chromodynamics to innovative business proposals and thought-provoking film analyses, our students shone brightly with their academic and artistic prowess. Our Humanities Salon began the day with students embodying historical figures, engaging the audience with their knowledge and charm. Additionally, our eighth and ninth grade students delved into important health and wellness topics during interactive poster sessions. And the grand finale? Two mesmerizing performances from our student musicians!

Arts Showcase



Our 2024 Spring Arts Showcase was a night to remember! The Spring Concert featured many memorable performances, including Mendelssohn's "Nocturne" performed by Sinfonia, a Shakespearean monologue from *Othello* performed by Andrianna '26, "Bells of Praise" by the Myrtle V. Eckert Handbell Choir, and many more. Moreover, our student artists dazzled guests by exhibiting their masterpieces of painting, photography, and sculpture at the 27th Annual Art Show. Congratulations to Amy Dong '24 for winning this year's Best in Show Award for her piece, "Vibrance."

Athletic Recognition

Our Spring Athlete Recognition ceremony was a celebration of strength, skill, and determination at Linden Hall. The event highlighted the talent of our students, across varsity and middle school basketball, equestrian, club tennis, and archery. We are grateful to our dedicated coaches, who inspire and guide our athletes every step of the way, and to our Athletic Director, Mrs. Martelle, for her unwavering leadership.



Musical

Linden Hall was proud to present *Alice by Heart*. From the creators of the Tony prize-winning musical *Spring Awakening*, this play follows a group of London citizens hiding from the blitzkrieg in a rundown London Tube station. A young girl — in refusing to accept her best friend Alfred's tuberculosis diagnosis — tries to keep spirits high by telling the classic tale, *Alice in Wonderland*, which she has memorized. As her tale unwinds, others join her in becoming the book's well-known characters, such as the Cheshire Cat, Queen of Hearts, and more. We are so proud of our theater staff, cast, and crew for putting on such a successful production!



Alumnae Reunion Weekend

Save the Date: April 11–13, 2025



SUPPORT OUR STUDENTS!

Each donation helps to make a difference in the lives of Linden Hall students while also reducing your taxable income. Scan the QR code to donate to the 2024 Linden Hall Annual Fund now!

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Exploring the Archives

Written by Linden Hall's Student Journalist, Emily Kwon '25



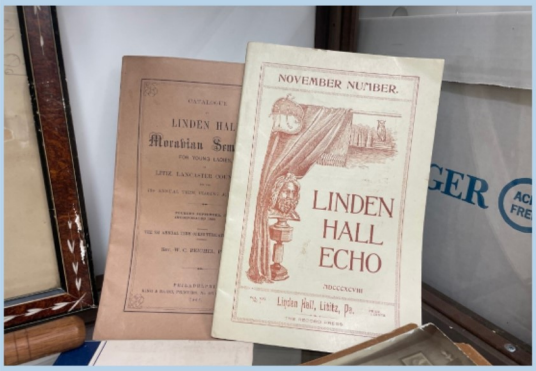
Where are Linden Hall's legacy and memories preserved? The answer lies in the third-floor halls of the academic building, in the school archives. The school has amassed an array of artifacts over hundreds of years, thanks to the generous donations of Linden Hall alumnae and community members. To aggregate these items in one location, Distinguished Alumna Joey Yocum '59 founded the Linden Hall archives. This extensive collection includes items such as yearbooks, photographs, invoices, event programs, and other artifacts that bridge the Linden Hall experience from past to present and celebrate student achievements and milestones.

The repository is maintained by the Alumnae Association and student archivists. Each year, Linden Hall selects two or three dedicated student archivists whose duties span from organizing and categorizing donated items to researching information about alumnae and their time on campus. In the 2023–24 academic year, two Linden Hall student archivists, Rachel '25 and Vivian '27, have worked to assist the Alumnae Relations office with the school archives.

Regarding her experiences working as a student archivist, Vivian '26 remarked, "My favorite aspect of the archivist position is looking back on all the memories the girls had and learning what it was like to be a Linden Hall student in years past. I have learned so much about the school, especially the history of our traditions. I've also learned much about what the girls were like in previous years."

Rachel '25 shared, "My favorite aspect of this position is seeing how past students grew, and how they achieved greater things each year they attended school. I have learned several interesting facts about Linden Hall since beginning this work. For instance, our alma mater was written by two alums: the music in 1924 by Myra Conlin Clarke and the words by Helen Reinhard McKay in 1927. Moreover, the *Linden Hall Echo* was once Lititz's town newspaper before regular newspapers were popularized."

Each artifact preserved in the Linden Hall archives tells a fascinating narrative about our school's educational achievements and 278-year legacy. Linden Hall greatly appreciates the efforts of our student archivists, alumnae, and the Alumnae Relations office in diligently preserving the rich history of our school.



The Linden Hall Echo *is one of the oldest published student literary magazines in the United States. First published in 1877, the* Echo *initially served as Lititz's town newspaper. In the early 20th century, however, the periodical was rebranded as a literary magazine, carrying war advertisements from local businesses, school calendars, general articles and stories, and even train schedules.*



At the heart of the archives lies the gavel made from a beam of the old Linden Hall barn and gymnasium erected between 1750 and 1760. The gavel was later used by the Governor of Pennsylvania to lay the cornerstone of the new auditorium/gymnasium in 1907.